

House Resolution No. 2475

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives feel it is altogether fitting and proper to pause from time to time to recognize individuals and organizations that have contributed to the welfare of this great state and its citizens or distinguished themselves through significant personal achievement; and

Whereas, the members now pause to recognize Ruth A. Smith, who will be honored during the annual Salute to Women in Leadership luncheon to take place on May 9, 2008, a collaborative event between the City of St. Louis, the Office of the License Collector, and the Vashon/Jeff VanderLou Initiative; and

Whereas, the Salute to Women in Leadership awards are given to women who excel in their work in a professional, civic, or social capacity in the St. Louis area; and

Whereas, Ruth A. Smith, who will receive the Services Leadership Award, is President and CEO of Human Development Corporation of Metropolitan St. Louis, supervising a network of programs that assists over 100,000 St. Louis area residents annually, programs that help residents to attain self-sufficiency and move on to achieve their full potential as human beings and members of the community; and

Whereas, Ruth A. Smith is the first female President and CEO of Human Development Corporation, which has the motto "Helping People, Changing Lives"; and

Whereas, Ruth A. Smith, who holds a degree in management from Maryville University in St. Louis, is the proud recipient of the Clergy's Martin Luther King, Jr. Award, the Missouri Legislative Black Caucus-Gwen Giles Award, Bronze Brick-Missouri Historical Society, and St. Louis Commerce 2008 Who's Who in St. Louis Business Leaders; and

Whereas, Ruth A. Smith is the immediate past president of the St. Louis Metropolitan Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, executive committee member of the St. Louis NAACP, board member of the St. Louis Gateway Classic Sports Foundation and the Fathers' Support Center, and member of the President's Council for Hopewell Center, and she has served on the major fund-raising committees for Crisis Nursery Center, as co-chair of Razzle Dazzle Ball, the National Conference for Community Justice, and the Annie Malone Children and Family Center; and

Whereas, Ruth A. Smith is affiliated with the Citizens for Missouri's Children, the Missouri Association for Social Welfare, the Missouri Association for Community Action Agencies, the American Association of University Women, and the National Council of Negro Women:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join to extend our congratulations and admiration for the personal and professional accomplishments of Ruth A. Smith; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Ruth A. Smith, as a measure of our esteem.

Offered by _____
Representative Rodney R. Hubbard
District No. 58

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 2475, adopted April 30, 2008.

Rod Jetton, Speaker